

REVENUE—FOREST.

No. 7953—R. F. 155-92, DATED 29TH NOVEMBER 1892.

In supersession of all existing rules on the subject, the following revised rules for the sale of timber and bamboos by public auction have been approved by His Highness the Maharaja's Government and are published for general information :—

I.—Procedure.

1. Every auction sale shall be held by the Forest Officer in charge of the District or other officer deputed by the Deputy Commissioner.
2. The highest bidder shall be the purchaser. Should any lot be disputed, it shall be again put up and resold.
3. Each purchaser shall, immediately after a lot has been knocked down to him, sign his name opposite the number and specification of the lot brought by him in a book provided for the purpose. Such signature shall be held as an admission on his part of having bought such lot.

II.—Payments how to be made.

4. Immediately after the sale, each purchaser will be furnished with a memo showing the total amount due by him and with a letter of advice to pay immediately twenty-five per cent of such amount as a deposit into the Taluk Treasury at the place, and if there is no such Treasury, to pay the same into the nearest Taluk Treasury before the close of the 3rd or 5th day from the date of the sale as circumstances may require, regard being had to the distance of the Taluk Treasury. A receipt for the deposit money will be granted by the Treasury Officer and must be presented to the Forest Officer at once if the Treasury is at the place of sale, and if otherwise, before the close of the fifth or eighth day from date of sale as fixed. The Forest Officer will initial the receipt and enter on its face the date of presentation. Should any purchaser fail to comply with this regulation, the Forest Officer shall be at liberty to resell all or any portion of the timber and bamboos purchased by such defaulter, who shall be required to make good any loss, but shall not participate in any profit on such resale. The amount due by such defaulter shall be recovered as a revenue demand.

5. The whole quantity purchased by each purchaser must be paid for within 30 days from the date of sale or within such further period not exceeding 90 days from the date of sale under the special orders of the Inspector General of Forests, failing which, the deposit money already paid in shall be forfeited to the Government and the wood or bamboos not paid for shall be resold. Moneys due may be paid into the Treasury of the Taluk in which the wood-yard is situated, or into the District Treasury, but into no other, except in cases where the merchants are permitted to pay into any other Government Treasury.

III.—Delivery of Wood.

6. No wood can be removed by any purchaser until it has been paid for in full and until a "license to remove," shall have been obtained from the Forest Officer.

IV.—Wood-yard, Rent.

7. Timber and bamboos paid for under the preceding sections may be removed at any time within 30 days from date of sale, or within such further period not exceeding 90 days from date of sale, as may be fixed by the Forest Officer, as the circumstances of each case may require, without payment of wood-yard rent; but if left in the wood-yard longer than 90 days from date of sale, shall be charged with wood-yard rent at 12 per cent per annum on the amount of purchase money from date of sale. If the wood or bamboos be not removed within six months from date of sale, the same shall, after ten days' notice to the purchaser, be sold by public auction for the recovery of rent and cost, after due publicity of the sale, subject to full payment at once and immediate removal, and the balance of sale proceeds shall be paid to the original purchaser. If before such sale is concluded, the original purchaser tenders the rent due and cost, he shall be allowed to remove his wood or bamboos.

V.—Licenses to remove.

8. No wood can be removed from the wood-yard till a "license to remove timber and bamboos" signed by the Forest Officer in charge of the District shall have been obtained; and all holders of such licenses shall be bound to abide by the conditions laid down in such licenses. Any trader or other person infringing the terms of his license, or not returning his license on the expiration of the time allowed, shall be liable to be dealt with under the conditions prescribed in Section 40 of the Mysore Forest Rules. All time-expired licenses shall be considered as null and void and extension of time shall not be granted, except on the ground of special and cogent reasons and under Deputy Commissioner's orders.

VI.—General.

9. The Forest Officer shall be at liberty, with the concurrence of the Deputy Commissioner or the officer deputed by the Deputy Commissioner if such be present, and failing their presence, on his own responsibility, to stop the sale at any time without giving any reason to the intending purchasers.